

## **JON'S SERMON OUTLINE....**

### **HOW CHRISTIANS PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE**

*Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. <sup>2</sup> Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will <sup>[a]</sup>bring judgment on themselves. <sup>3</sup> For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. <sup>4</sup> For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. <sup>5</sup> Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. <sup>6</sup> For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. <sup>7</sup> Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.*

Romans 13:1-7

Introduction: Many Americans still have a sense of allegiance to our country. Christians have a dual citizenship, both to heaven and their nation. This may actually present some unique challenges for us as we try to fulfill these two obligations. The example of God's people living under Roman rule sheds some much needed light on this issue. First century Christians relied on the principles Paul laid down in the 13<sup>th</sup> chapter of his letter to the Romans. Let's see what God had to say.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ BY THE RULES:
  - a. Don't resist authority (Romans 13:1-2).
  - b. Don't resent authority (Romans 13:3-4).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ BEING CIVIL:
  - a. Because of wrath (Romans 13:5a).
  - b. Because of conscience' sake (Romans 13:5b)
  - c. Because of taxes (Romans 13:6).
3. \_\_\_\_\_ IN CIVIL MATTERS:
  - a. You owe them taxes (Romans 13:7a).
  - b. You owe them customs (Romans 13:7b).
  - c. You owe them fear and honor (Romans 13:7c).

CONCLUSION: Have you pledged your allegiance to Jesus Christ?

Answers:     1. Play            2. Practice     3. Participate